

**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q92543

Chin Kok YAP

Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/SG2004/000097

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: January 3, 2006

Examiner: Unknown

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR AUTOMATING INVENTORY MANAGEMENT IN A  
SUPPLY CHAIN

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

A copy of an International Search Report in a counterpart application is submitted herewith. The USPTO should receive copies of the references cited in the International Search Report from the International Bureau. Applicant will furnish any missing references upon request.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action

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on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (International Search Report for PCT/SG2004/000097 dated September 7, 2004), together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

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Date: January 3, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO

Complete if Known **10/563240****INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

1

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Unknown

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January 3, 2006

First Named Inventor

Chin Kok YAP

Art Unit

Unknown

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

Q92543

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 5,946,662	A	08/31/1999	MARKUS ETTL, ET AL
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		EP	0 733 986	A	09/25/1996	PANDUIT CORP.	

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		S. CHAN, ET AL, "APPLYING A MEDIATOR ARCHITECTURE EMPLOYING XML TO RETAIL INVENTORY CONTROL", PARALLEL AND DISTRIBUTED PROCESSING SYMPOSIUM., PROCEEDINGS 15 <sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL SAN FRANCISCO, CA, USA, April 2001, 23-27, LOS ALAMITOS, CA, USA, IEEE COMPUT. SOC, US, April 23, 2001, pages 1727-1733, XP010544587, ISBN: 0-7695-0990-8	
		S. ED BANSAL - S. E. CHICK, ET AL, INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS: "THEORY AND PRACTICE OF ADVANCED PLANNER AND OPTIMIZER IN SUPPLY CHAIN DOMAIN", PROCEEDINGS OF THE 2003 WINTER SIMULATION CONFERENCE., WSC'03, NEW ORLEANS, LA, DEC. 7-10, 2003, WINTER SIMULATION CONFERENCE, NEW YORK, NY: IEEE, US, Vol., Vol. 2 OF 2, CONF. 36, December 7, 2003, pages 1424-1432, XP010679738, ISBN: 0-7803-8131-9	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.